(b) No, Sir.

(c) While including drugs for Trachoma Control, consideration has been to select commonly used effective drugs.

(d) Does not arise.

Purchase of Medicines by Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital

4127. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that items for Surgery, ENT and Dental Departments were purchased recently on priority basis at Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, Delhi worth more than Rs. 80 lacs on very high price and from certain companies;

(b) whether the audit department has raised certain objections in the installation of public address system;

(c) whether it is also a fact that a number of complaints from some Members of Parliament and others have been received against the Medical Superintendent for emezzlement of lacs of Government funds;

(d) whether a vigilance enquiry has been initiated in this regard if so, what are the finding thereof and what action has been taken or is proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the involved officials are suppressing the inquiry; if so, whether Government propose to hold the enquiry by Central Vigilance or Central Bureau of Investigations and to shift the Medical Superintendent to ensure impartial enquiry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) During the year 1987-88, various items costing Rs. 73.29 lakhs were purchased on proprietory basis by Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, Delhi from 15 different companies for use in the ENT, Dental, Orthopaedic, Opthalmology and Anaesthesia Departments.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The Delhi Administration have recceived a few complaints against the Medical Superintendent, Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital. These have been referred to the Vigilance Department, Delhi Administration, for investigation. The report is awaited.

Eye ointments based on Betamethasone and Dexamethasone

4128. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1031 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that eye drops and eye ointments based on Betamethasone and Dexamethasone with without Neomycin are used more extensively than the eye ointment/eye drops of Hydrocortisone on account of the irritating properties of the later; and

(b) what are the purchases of eye ointments/drops of the above products for the National Health Programme during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No Sir.

(b) No drugs are purchased under National Programme for Control of Blindness by Government of India.

Non-inclusion of some opthalmic drugs

4129. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of Hydrocortisone ingredient drops/ointment for opthalmic use in India and what in the total sales of such preparations;

(b) whether it is a fact that total sales of Tetracycline group in opthalmic form was only Rs. 140 lakhs during 1986 and that of soframysin plain and it combination was Rs. 340 lakhs, that of Chloromphenicol it was Rs. 400 lakhs. Neosporin and Combinations it was Rs. 161 lakhs and

that of Gentamycin it was Rs. 195 lakhs as per ORG;

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not including the other drugs and whether it is a fact that among the Tetracyclines, Tetracycline opthalmic included under Trachoma as a sale of Rs. 10 lakhs only and so is the position of Hydrocortisone; and

(d) by when the position is proposed to be reviewed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (d) The production and sales of drugs is monitored by the Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Industry. Information collected will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Complaints against prices of Rifampicin etc.

4130. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1082 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd August, 1988 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that written complaint has been received by his Ministry regarding over-charging of prices of Rifampicin + INH, Ethambutol + INH, INH+B6 Liquid and PAS & INH;

(b) since when the overcharging is going on and what is the extent of overcharging;

(c) when the prices of these products were fixed: and

(d) what steps are being contemplated to provide relief to the poor T. B. patient?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) No complaint has been received in this Ministry in this regard.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The prices of referred formulations were fixed under Drugs Prices Control Order dated 27-8-1987, by the Ministry of Industry.

(d) Under the National T.B. Control Programme a District T.B. Centre is being established in every district of the country by the States to organise a community-wise District T.B. Programme in association with the General Health Institutions of the District to offer free diagnosis, treatment and preventive facilities to the patients and to the community. So far 371 District T.B. Centres have been established in the country.

Besides, 300 T.B. Clinics are also functioning. About 46,000 T.B. beds are also available in the country to cater to the needs of emergent, complicated cases and patients requiring surgical intervention.

BCG Vaccination is being given as a preventive measure under the Universal Immunization Programme.

Anti-TB Drugs, X-ray Machine/filrolls and equipment are supplied to the States/UTs by the Centre under the National TB Control Programme. Drugs are supplied to the TB patients free of cost.

Complaints regarding signature time on Indian Airlines Flights

4131. SHRI PRAMOD MOHAJAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lot of passengers have made complaints about the signature tune of Indian Airlines on flights during boarding or alighting;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the same tune is being played for several years; and

(c) if so, whether Indian Airlines propose to change it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) A few complaints and a few letters of appreciation have been received by Indian Airlines regarding the music played on board.